

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 1129 – SB 1266

March 12, 2014

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Authorizes teachers and administrators to use, read, or post excerpts from the United States Constitution in a public school classroom, building, or during an event. Requires each student to be taught the foundational instruments, mechanisms, and values of American government. Requires a course of such instruction to be taught in all public schools. Sets forth requirements for such courses that shall be used. Requires local education agencies (LEAs) to report to the Commissioner of Education their compliance with the content of courses as set forth in this bill. Copies of their reports shall be retained in each school for access by parents and the public.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (014195): Adds language to the original bill that authorizes a licensed teacher to work with a student teacher biennially without negatively affecting the teacher's evaluation score during that school year. The teacher's evaluation score for the academic year worked with a student teacher is required to be the same as the prior academic year. Component scores of a teacher's evaluation may be raised during the academic year in which a teacher worked with a student teacher. Prohibits a teacher evaluation score from being lowered during the academic year that a teacher worked with a student teacher.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Other Fiscal Impact – Based on the information provided by the Department of Education, the federal government may require the state to repay a portion of the Race to the Top grant funding that has already been drawn down; withhold future grant funding; or both. Any such impacts cannot be reasonably quantified and is dependent upon the response and action taken by the federal government.

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Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- The Race to the Top grant funding and the state's federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) waiver were received, partially on the basis of Tennessee's new teacher evaluation model. The full Race to the Top grant amount is \$501,000,000. Based on information provided by the Department of Education, the federal government may require the state to repay a portion of the grant funding that has been drawn down; withhold future grant funding; or both.
- Any fiscal impact on local expenditures related to changing the teacher evaluation system is estimated to be not significant.
- Any fiscal impact on state or local expenditures as a result of changing curriculum as it relates to the foundational instruments, mechanisms, and values of the American government and requiring such a course to be taught in all public schools is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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